

Appl. No. 09/936,399
Atty. Docket No. 7473
Amtd. dated April 21, 2005
Reply to Office Action of 12/2/04
Customer No. 27752

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 11, 13, 16 and 24-27 are now in the case. Claim 11 recites the Schiff base which is the reaction product of the listed diamines. Basis for the recitation of Schiff base is at page 12, line 9, as is the basis for the term "aldehyde". Basis for the recitation of diamines is at page 14, second paragraph. Basis for the recitation of aldehydes in amended Claim 13 is at page 12, beginning line 16. Claim 24 and 25 now depend from Claim 11. It is submitted that all amendments are fully supported, and entry is requested.

Formal Matters

For the record, there are no objections or rejections under 35 USC 112 outstanding.

Rejections Under 35 USC 102

The rejections of Claims 28-31 over U.S. 5,500,154, have been obviated by the cancellation of those claims. Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

Moreover, it is submitted that all claims, as now amended, fully meet §102 over the cited '154 patent, for reasons noted below regarding §103.

Rejections Under 35 USC 103

Claims 11-16 and 21-32 stand rejected under §103 over U.S. 5,500,154, for reasons of record at pages 3-4 of the Office Action

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections, to the extent they may apply to the claims as now amended.

Succinctly stated, and not by way of limitation, the situation facing Applicants boiled-down to the following:

- 1.) Greasy soil removal is an important attribute of dishwashing compositions. (Specification at page 1, line 23.)
- 2.) Diamines have been found to improve the cleaning of dishes, especially with regard to greasy soils. (Specification, page 1, line 30.)
- 3.) Unfortunately, diamines are malodorous. (Specification, page 1, line 30.)

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- 4.) To solve the malodor problem while still providing the grease-cleaning benefits, Applicants employ the diamines in the Schiff-base form. (Specification, page 12.)
- 5.) Thus, even the potent diamines of Amended Claim 11 can be formulated into consumer-acceptable composition.

It is submitted that none of the foregoing is suggested by '154. Thus, since '154 does not suggest the present problem, it does not suggest the solution in the sense of §103. (MPEP 2141.02) Certainly, nothing in '154 suggests the specified diamine solvents, much less their use in the Schiff-base form, as recited in the now-amended claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are therefore requested.

In light of the foregoing, early and favorable action in the case is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Page 5 of 5